

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/023,641

Examiner

Robert C. Scheibel

Applicant(s)

KUHL ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the request for continued examination filed 10/19/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-23, and 25-28, renumbered 1-15.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20061218</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard J. Mitchell (Reg. No. 34,519) on December 14, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In line 11 of claim 13, "transmitting toward a particular egress card" has been corrected to -- transmitting to the switch fabric for forwarding toward a particular egress card --.

In line 18 of claim 13, "transmitting toward said particular egress card" has been corrected to -- transmitting to the switch fabric for forwarding toward said particular egress card --.

In lines 22-23 of claim 13, "said cells being subject to becoming interleaved during transmission toward said egress card" has been corrected to -- said cells being subject to becoming interleaved during transmission toward said egress card after entering the switch fabric --.

Art Unit: 2616

In line 10 of claim 20, “forwarding the cells through a switch fabric toward an egress card” has been corrected to -- transmitting the cells to a switch fabric for forwarding toward an egress card --.

In lines 11-12 of claim 20, “is transmitted toward the egress as a packet ordered contiguous group” has been corrected to -- is transmitted to the switch fabric as a packet ordered contiguous group --.

In line 15 of claim 20, “forwarding the cells through the switch fabric toward an egress card” has been corrected to -- transmitting the cells to the switch fabric for forwarding toward the egress card --.

In line 16 of claim 20, “group of traffic flows is transmitted toward the egress card” has been corrected to -- group of traffic flows is transmitted to the switch fabric --.

Claim 20 has been corrected to add the following after line 17; -- said cells being subject to becoming interleaved after entering the switch fabric; --.

In line 32 of claim 20, “non-interleaved order sequence of groups of cells” has been corrected to -- non-interleaved ordered sequence of groups of cells --.

Claim 24 has been cancelled.

In line 5 of claim 25, “segmentation sequence, and wherein” has been corrected to -- segmentation sequence and being transmitted to the network element without being interleaved with other cells, and wherein --.

In line 6 of claim 25, “may leave an egress side” has been corrected to -- are subject to leave an egress side --.

In lines 9-10 of claim 25, “providing a reassembly queue at an egress card of said network element corresponding to each ingress traffic flow” has been corrected to -- providing a plurality of reassembly queues at an egress card of said network element, each reassembly queue corresponding to an ingress traffic flow --

In line 14 of claim 25, “ordering the cells assigned to the respective reassembly queues” has been corrected to -- the cells assigned to the respective reassembly queues being ordered --.

In line 4 of claim 28, “segmentation sequence, and wherein” has been corrected to -- segmentation sequence and being transmitted to the network element without being interleaved with other cells, and wherein --.

In line 5 of claim 28, “may leave an egress side” has been corrected to -- are subject to leave an egress side --.

In lines 8-9 of claim 28, “a reassembly queue at an egress card of said network element corresponding to each ingress traffic flow” has been corrected to -- a plurality of reassembly queues at an egress card of said network element, each reassembly queue corresponding to an ingress traffic flow --.

In line 11 of claim 28, “an assignment module for assigning the cells arriving from the network element on” has been corrected to -- an assignment module for examining the potentially interleaved cells arriving from the network element and assigning them on --.

Art Unit: 2616

In line 15 of claim 28, “group of cells are contiguous and arranged” has been corrected to -- group of cells that are contiguous and arranged --.

2. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 13, the prior art of record does not disclose the limitations of “c) transmitting to the switch fabric for forwarding toward a particular egress card the cells of a particular group of traffic flows on a cell-by-cell basis in an ordered sequence such that each group of cells from said particular group of traffic flows is transmitted as a contiguous group of cells without being interleaved with other cells; d) transmitting to the switch fabric for forwarding toward said particular egress card the cells of another traffic flow or group of traffic flows on a cell-by-cell basis in a packet ordered sequence such that each group of cells from said particular group of traffic flows is transmitted as a contiguous group of cells without being interleaved with other cells; e) said cells being subject to becoming interleaved during transmission toward said egress card after entering the switch fabric” in combination with all other limitations of this claim. Similarly, regarding claims 20, 25, and 28, the prior art does not disclose the analogous limitations. Claims 14-19, 21-23, and 26-27 depend from one of the above independent claims and are allowable for reasons stated above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Art Unit: 2616

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert C. Scheibel whose telephone number is 571-272-3169. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Thursday from 7:00-5:30 Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema S. Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RCS 12-18-06

Robert C. Scheibel
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2616

Seema S. Rao 12/21/06
SEEMA S. RAO

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600